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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton
Permanent Select Committee
on Intelligence
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

The possibility that any Committee member harbors the thought that CIA lies to the Committee is so appalling that I feel obliged to determine if any member of the Committee actually feels that way and, if so, to seek the particulars. The confidence between the Agency and the Committee essential to make the oversight process work requires that any such impression be addressed. I therefore ask you to let me know whether you have made or heard anybody make such a statement or know of any member of the Committee who would be under that impression.

Sincerely,

/S/

William J. Casey

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